



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Arizona Ecological Services Office

2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103

Phoenix, Arizona 85021-4951

Telephone: (602) 242-0210 Fax: (602) 242-2513



In reply refer to:

AESO/SE

March 12, 2012

FILE COPY

Memorandum

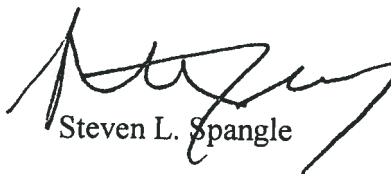
To: Interested Parties and Agencies

From: Field Supervisor

Subject: Pre-proposal Notification and Information Request for the Rosemont Talussnail

The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is responsible for identifying those species that are in need of protection under the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973 as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544 et seq.). This memorandum is notification that the Service has acquired information indicating the Rosemont talussnail (*Sonorella rosemontensis*), a candidate for listing under the Act, may need protection afforded by the Act. This species is part of a recent Settlement Agreement related to our listing workplan. Under the agreement, a proposed rule or withdrawal for the talussnail must be completed by September 30, 2013, but could be completed earlier depending on internal scheduling.

If you have specific information regarding this species, including threats, planned activities that may affect it, or additional status or distributional information, we would appreciate receiving it by May 12, 2012. A short summary of the current status of the species is attached. Please feel free to distribute this notification to other interested parties. A request for formal comments will be made if a listing proposal is published in the *Federal Register*. If we can be of assistance, please contact Mike Martinez (x224) or Debra Bills (x239).


Steven L. Spangle

Attachment

cc (w/attachment):

Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Albuquerque, NM (Attn: ARD, Sarah Quamme)
Assistant Field Supervisor, Fish and Wildlife Service, Tucson, AZ (Attn: Jason Douglas)
Director, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix, AZ (Attn: Jeff Sorensen)

Rosemont Talussnail
Sonorella rosemontensis

STATUS: Candidate (75 FR 69222, November 10, 2010).

SPECIES DESCRIPTION: The Rosemont talussnail is a terrestrial snail with shell height of 12.7 millimeters (mm) (0.5 inches (in)), diameter of 21.7 mm (0.85 in), and about 4.5 whorls. The shell is polished, moderately solid, pale brown, fading around the umbilicus (navel), with a light-bordered chestnut brown band. Positive identification of the species depends on examination of soft body parts.

HABITAT: Rosemont talussnail occurs in talus slopes (rock slides of volcanic rock and limestone) at elevations of about 5,500 feet (1676 meters). Rock slides are typically deep, free of excess sedimentation, and exhibits stable moisture conditions.

RANGE: The species is known from the northern end of the Santa Rita Mountains near Rosemont, Pima County, Arizona.

REASONS FOR DECLINE/VULNERABILITY: Rosemont talussnail is vulnerable to any disturbance that would remove talus, increase interstitial (between-rocks) sedimentation, or change moisture conditions. The entire range of the species is located on lands designated for the purpose of hard rock mining, which typically involves the blasting of hillsides and the crushing of rock. Such activities within this species' habitat would kill talussnails and render their habitat unsuitable.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: Private (patented mining claims).

NOTES: Detailed information can be found in the Species Assessment Form posted on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Environmental Conservation Online System at:
http://ecos.fws.gov/docs/candidate/assessments/2012/r2/G0FZ_I01.pdf

W:\Mike Martinez\Listing\Rosemont talussnail\Rosemont talussnail\Rosemont talussnail Preproposal summary:cgg